

WHOLE NO 454

shown, this is not the only question. We must go back of this and see which breed of sheep can be bought at the lowest price per pound in the fall. At present there can be no doubt that the common sheep of the

country, with more or less Merino blood in them can be bought at the cheapest. Whether it will always be so or not is another question. It is quite possible that it would prove to be a fact that the fine woolled sheep can be raised up to the age when they are usually turned off for the skin.

cost than the larger coarse woolled sheep.— They have been kept principally for their wool; this commands a higher price, and the proportion of wool to the weight of the sheep is higher; and as it is certain that, other things being equal, sheep consume less food

that more wool and that of a better quality can be obtained from a given quantity of food from the fine woolled sheep than from the large English breeds.

ston, who has had much experience in fattening sheep, informed us some years ago, that the common fine woolled sheep of the country were the most profitable sheep ho

could buy for fattening in winter. He now advocates fattening larger sheep, stating that they will fatten more easily than the smaller sheep. In this he is unquestionably correct, and it follows that the larger sheep are the most profitable, provided that they can be purchased at a low price.

For fattening, then, select the largest and thriftiest sheep that can be obtained at a proportional cost. The fatter they are to commence with the better; for this fat has been put on at a less cost than it cost to put on.

For fattening sheep in winter there is nothing equal to good clover hay. We have known sheep increase over 2 lbs. per week on clover hay alone for four months. They were Southdowns and eat about 2 lbs. each

per day. A little grain or oil cake can be fed with profit if the increased value of the manure is taken into consideration. Corn is nearly, if not quite as fattening as peas or oil-cake, but the manure is by no means as valuable. Thus the manure from a top-dressed

Indian corn is worth, according to the highest English authority, \$6.65, while from a ton of peas it is \$13.38 and from a ton of oil-cake \$19.72. Barley and oats are about equal to corn in this respect. The crop of oats this year is unusually heavy and they

Sheep will bear pretty close confinement. We have seen them fattened in England in pens where there was little more room than was necessary for them to lie down comfortably.

They were placed on narrow boards, say two or three inches wide, with an inch between each board for the droppings to pass through. The pens were thatched to keep off the rain and were closed up on three sides. We have never seen healthier sheep. They were quiet, warm, clean, and safe.

Nothing is so injurious as wet. It is an old remark—that "sheep do better on roast meat than boiled," and it is equally true that they will do better in even cold quarters, if dry, than in warm yards if wet.

Another point must not be forgotten.—
Sheep are timid animals. No one should
have anything to do with them who is not

It is a great mistake to suppose that sheep will thrive without water. When the celebrated Rothamstead experiments were in progress, it was found that sheep having access

... famous sheep breeder who came to see them expressed the idea that they drank more than was good for them. To test the question: the quantity of water was restricted to what he thought the proper amount; but on weigh-

ing the sheep at the end of the week as usual. It was found, if we recollect right, that every sheep had lost weight—at least the scales indicated that they had not done as well as usual, and for the future they were allowed all they would drink.

regularity in feeding; quiet, warm, dry, well ventilated, clean quarters; access to fresh water; a little salt, (we think) and plenty of nutritious food are the essentials of successful sheep-breeding.

three quarters of a pound per head per day rarely fed to advantage, unless they are very large sheep. The English farmers usually allow a pound of oil cake per head per day to sheep weighing 100 to 140 lbs. This is high feeding. We believe it is better

give only a little at first and increase the quantity after a while, especially in cold weather. It must be borne in mind, that a certain quantity of food is necessary to keep sheep in its natural condition—to keep from losing weight; and that it is in that

cesses of food over this point alone, that en-
duces the animal to put on fat. This is an
argument in favor of high feeding; but, we
must not run to extremes. It is easy to feed
high that every pound of fat shall cost ten
double what we get for it. We seldom err,

It is much more common to feed too little than too much. It would be well for oat farmers to make a rule never to sell corn or oats off the farm. This has been John Johnston's rule and it is one secret of

WHEAT.—Since the first day of August, 1890, there have been received at Milwaukee and Chicago no less than ten million bushels of wheat. Since the same date, there have been received at Buffalo nine million bushels.

the Buffalo Commercial says: "Wheat is hardly a moiety of the grain trade; even wheat to include with it the receipts of flour. Thus, reducing flour to wheat, our total grain receipts, from the opening of navigation to the close of last week, have been 26,841,000 bushels."

business. We estimate this year's receipts in grain at this port, at not less than \$2,000,000, bushels of cereals."

